



PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Employers will expect you, as a Practical Nursing graduate, to be able to:

- Adhere to standards of practice within legal, ethical and regulatory frameworks of the licensed practical nurse
- Use effective communication skills
- Assist with health assessment of individuals, families and groups
- Participate in clinical decision-making within the LPN scope of practice
- Provide caring interventions with diverse populations
- Use principles of teaching and learning processes to reinforce teaching plans
- Work cooperatively with others to provide holistic care
- Under supervision, manage and direct care within and across health care settings according to established protocols

CAREER OPTIONS

Upon successful completion of licensure examination a Licensed Practical Nurse holds positions such as:

- Home Care Nurse
- Long-term Care Nurse
- Office Nurse
- Private Duty Nurse

Program Code 31-543-1

Expected Program Costs: \$5,800

Median Annual Salary: \$37,000

OVERVIEW

The Practical Nursing program has a challenging curriculum that prepares students to provide direct care for individuals in long-term care agencies, doctor's clinics, home-health agencies, the armed services and other sites. This program includes lectures, discussions, demonstrations, laboratory practice and supervised clinical in a variety of settings.

After successfully completing the Practical Nursing (PN) program, the graduate becomes eligible to apply to take the national licensing exam for Practical Nursing. If you pass the examination, you may work as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). As an LPN, you will work in the health care field under the direction of a Registered Nurse (RN).

The admissions requirements are the same for the Practical Nursing and the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) programs to support progression from one program into the next. Practical Nursing graduates are eligible to apply to the ADN program and continue their education to become an RN. Articulation of a PN graduate into the nursing program will be based on seat availability.

MSTC's Practical Nursing program is part of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) system-wide curriculum and is identical to the first year of the Associate Degree Nursing program. The Practical Nursing program is approved by the Wisconsin Board of Nursing.

The Practical Nursing program is offered at the Wisconsin Rapids campus.

POTENTIAL FOR ADVANCEMENT

Charge Nurse

Registered Nurse

Potential advancement generally requires further education.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

To apply to the Practical Nursing program, please complete the following steps and submit documents to the MSTC Admissions Office:

Step 1:

1. Complete an MSTC Application form and return it with a \$30 non-refundable application fee.
2. Attend a nursing informational session. Students can register for one of these sessions by going to www.mstc.edu/nursing/registerforasession.htm. This informational session can also be completed online at <http://www.mstc.edu/nursing/informationssession>.

3. Complete the Accuplacer or ACT. Minimum scores required:

- Reading–Accuplacer score of 55
- Sentence Skills–Accuplacer score of 60
- Math–Accuplacer score of 34
- ACT equivalents for above scores are acceptable.

If a student does not meet the required test scores, they may retest or complete an identified structured course(s) in the Academic Support Center.

- Written Communication, courses in mathematics and some science courses have placement requirements. Please refer to the course description section in the back of the catalog, listed under General Education, for course specific information.
4. Submit official copy of all academic transcripts, including high school, college or university and HSED/GED.
 5. Complete a Background Information Disclosure (BID) form and submit \$15 for Caregiver Background check. The Wisconsin Caregiver Law requires a background check. This form is available at <http://www.mstc.edu/pdf/BIDform.pdf>

When the requirements for Step 1 are completed, the student will be conditionally admitted to the Practical Nursing program and may be eligible to apply for financial aid.

Step 2:

To be eligible to enroll in practical nursing core courses, complete the following requirements in the sequence outlined below:

1. Completion of College Mathematics with a grade of "C" or better, or an Accuplacer Math score of 79 or higher.
2. Completion of Intro to College Reading and Study Skills with a grade of "C" or better, or an Accuplacer Reading score of 95 or higher.
3. Nursing Assistant or Basic Nursing Skills course with a grade of "C" or better.
4. One year of high school chemistry with at least a grade of "B" or better or equivalent, or one semester of college chemistry (10806134) with a grade of "C" or better.
5. General Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) with a grade of "B-" or better. This course has a science prerequisite. Completion of Developmental Psychology, and Written Communication with a grade of "C" or better.
6. Students are highly encouraged to have all General Education courses completed prior to entering nursing core courses. For the Practical Nursing Program the remaining General Education course is Oral/Interpersonal Communication (or Speech).
7. Must have a total program GPA of 2.0 or higher to start and continue in nursing core courses.
8. Updated BID form. Forms are located at <http://www.mstc.edu/pdf/BIDform.pdf>. You do not need to pay the fee again.

Those who fail to meet the above requirements within 20 undergraduate credit hours will have their conditional admission to the Practical Nursing program withdrawn and will no longer be eligible for financial aid.

Complete the Intent to Enroll form and submit proof of completion of all requirements at one time to the Student Affairs Office. Incomplete packets will be returned to the student.

Due dates for submission are February 1 and August 15 of each year. Students will be considered for enrollment in Practical Nursing core courses at the next available opening. Students will receive a letter confirming their start date for core courses by March 1 or September 15.

**Mid-State Technical College
Admissions
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Nursing Information Line
715.422.5570**

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Credit for Prior Learning is available for certain courses in the form of high school advanced standing, transfer credit, test credit, military experience and experiential credit. Contact the program counselor with questions regarding this option.

FUNCTIONAL ABILITIES

A list of specific physical, emotional and mental tasks needed to function as a nurse is available at www.mstc.edu/nursing/functionalabilities.pdf. It is the student's responsibility to notify the disability services coordinator in Student Affairs to receive assistance.

CLINICAL RELATED REQUIREMENTS

Clinical sites have the right to refuse a student's admission based on pending charges and conviction records. If you have a criminal history, you may not be able to complete clinical courses. MSTC will make two attempts to place a student in an appropriate clinical experience. If MSTC is unable to place the student in two attempts, the student will be withdrawn from the clinical course and will not be able to advance in the program. You may contact the program counselor for more details.

CURRICULUM		
Prior to Submitting		
"Intent to Enroll" Form		(10 credits)
10806177	General Anatomy & Physiology	4
10809188	Developmental Psychology	3
10801195	Written Communication	3
Prior to Beginning		
Nursing Core Courses		(3 credits)
10801196	Oral/Interpersonal Communication	3
Term		
		(9 credits)
10543101	Nursing Fundamentals	2
10543102	Nursing Skills	3
10543103	Nursing Pharmacology	2
10543104	Nursing: Intro to Clinical Practice	2
Term		
		(10 credits)
10543105	Nursing Health Alterations	3
10543106	Nursing Health Promotion	3
10543107	Nursing: Clinical Care Across the Lifespan	2
10543108	Nursing: Intro to Clinical Care Management	2
Total Credits 32		
Please Note:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Practical Nursing program has an August start date. Students are advised to attend a Question and Answer session. These sessions are offered on a frequent basis. • This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability. • Degree completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. • For General Education course descriptions (800 level), see section marked under Course Descriptions. 		

Prior to beginning a clinical experience in a health care facility, students must:

- a. Provide evidence of good health by completion of required health work within three months prior to starting their clinical experience.
- b. Provide evidence of current CPR.
- c. Obtain the required uniform for clinical experiences.
- d. Accept responsibility for clinical assignment(s) regardless of time and location, including transportation and other personal arrangements.

PROGRAM PROGRESSION

In order to maintain a passing status and progress in the program, all Practical Nursing students must:

- Receive a grade of “C” or better in all core, general education and transfer courses.
- Maintain a program GPA of 2.0 or higher.

If a student is not successful in a 10-543 course, he/she will need to repeat that course prior to progressing in the program. Potential continuation is dependent upon availability in the course/program.

Students will receive two attempts to pass any Nursing 10-543 course. If a passing grade is not achieved in two attempts, the student will be withdrawn from the program. A withdrawal grade of “W” counts as one attempt for the course. Requests for special consideration may be directed to the Service & Health Associate Dean for Nursing.

ARTICULATION OPPORTUNITIES

An MSTC graduate from the Practical Nursing program can articulate with any Nursing Associate Degree program in the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) and expect no duplication of classes. This articulation is based on seat availability and college residency requirements. All WTCS PN graduates can apply and articulate directly into the second year of the Nursing program based on seat availability and completion of general education courses.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERED NURSE EXAMINATION

1. Graduated from high school or its equivalent as determined by the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing.
2. Wisconsin State Statutes require that the student DOES NOT have an arrest or conviction record for acts or circumstances that relate directly to the clinical practice of the license being requested (i.e. bodily harm/injury; drug or alcohol impairment). Individuals cannot be discriminated against for arrest or conviction records if the precipitating actions do not directly relate to practice.
3. Graduated from a Board of Nursing approved accredited school of nursing.
4. Payment of fees to Mid-State Technical College and the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing.

MAINTAINING A NURSING LICENSE

The State Board of Nursing may revoke, limit, suspend or deny renewal of license if the person committed any of the following:

1. Fraud in the procuring or renewal of the license.
2. One or more violations of the Nurse Practice Act (Chapter 441) or accompanying Administrative Rules.
3. Acts which show practitioner to be unfit or incompetent.
4. Misconduct or unprofessional conduct.

PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTION

10543101 // 2 credits Nursing Fundamentals

This course focuses on basic nursing concepts that the beginning nurse will need to provide care to diverse patient populations across the lifespan. Current and historical issues impacting nursing will be explored within the scope of nursing practice. The nursing process will be introduced as a framework for organizing the care of patients with alterations in cognition, elimination, comfort, grief/loss, mobility, integument, and fluid/electrolyte balance.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all Step 2 Nursing program progression requirements and space availability.

10543102 // 3 credits Nursing Skills

This course focuses on development of clinical skills and physical assessment across the lifespan. Content includes mathematic calculations and conversions related to clinical skills, blood pressure assessment, aseptic technique, wound care, oxygen administration, tracheostomy care, suctioning, management of enteral tubes, basic medication administration, glucose testing, enemas, ostomy care, and catheterization. In addition this course includes techniques related to obtaining a health history and basic physical assessment skills using a body systems approach.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all Step 2 Nursing program progression requirements and space availability.

10543103 // 2 credits Nursing Pharmacology

Introduces the principles of pharmacology, including drug classifications and their effects on the body. Emphasis is on the use of the components of the nursing process when administering medications.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all Step 2 Nursing program progression requirements and space availability.

10543104 // 2 credits

Nursing: Intro to Clinical Practice

This introductory clinical course emphasizes basic nursing skills and application of the nursing process in meeting the needs of diverse clients across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on performing basic nursing skills, the formation of nurse-client relationships, communication, data collection, documentation, and medication administration.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of all Step 2 Nursing program progression requirements. Corequisites: Nursing Fundamentals 10543101, Nursing Skills 10543102, and Nursing Pharmacology 10543103

10543105 // 3 credits

Nursing Health Alterations

This course elaborates upon the basic concepts of health and illness as presented in Nursing Fundamentals. It applies theories of nursing in the care of clients through the lifespan, utilizing problem solving and critical thinking. This course will provide an opportunity to study conditions affecting different body systems and apply therapeutic nursing interventions. It will also introduce concepts of leadership, team building, and scope of practice.

Prerequisites: Nursing Fundamentals 10543101, Nursing Skills 10543102, Nursing Pharmacology 10543103, Intro to Clinical 10543104

10543106 // 3 credits

Nursing Health Promotion

Covers topics related to health promotion in the context of the family throughout the lifespan. We will cover nursing care of the developing family, which includes reproductive issues, pregnancy, labor and delivery, post-partum, the newborn, and the child. Recognizing the spectrum of healthy families we will discern patterns associated with adaptive and maladaptive behaviors applying mental health principles. An emphasis is placed on teaching and supporting healthy lifestyle choices for individuals of all ages. Nutrition, exercise, stress management, empowerment, and risk reduction practices are highlighted. Study of the family will cover dynamics, functions, discipline styles, and stages of development.

Prerequisites: Nursing Fundamentals 10543101, Nursing Skills 10543102, Nursing Pharmacology 10543103, Intro to Clinical Practice 10543104, Developmental Psychology 10809188

10543107 // 2 credits

Nursing: Clinical Care Across the Lifespan

Applies nursing concepts and therapeutic interventions to clients across the lifespan. It also provides an introduction to concepts of teaching and learning. Extending care to include the family is emphasized.

Prerequisites: Nursing Fundamentals 10543101, Nursing Skills 10543102, Nursing Pharmacology 10543103, Intro to Clinical Practice 10543104

10543108 // 2 credits

Nursing: Intro to Clinical Care Management

Applies nursing concepts and therapeutic nursing interventions to groups of clients across the lifespan. It also provides an introduction to leadership, management, and team building.

Prerequisites: Nursing Fundamentals 10543101, Nursing Skills 10543102, Nursing Pharmacology 10543103, Intro to Clinical Practice 10543104